

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 231358

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /019 R

DRAFTED BY OES/ENP/EN:HSPIELMAN:EF
APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN:HSPIELMAN
EUR/WE:JSWIHART (PHONE)

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P 180154Z SEP 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MILAN PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 231358

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SENV, OTRA, US IT

SUBJECT: GOLFARI VISIT

1. IN FULL DAY'S MEETING SEPTEMBER 16, U.S. AND ITALIAN SCIENTISTS, ON ONE HAND, AND PRESIDENT GOLFARI AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS, ON OTHER, FULLY SATISFIED BOTH SCIENTIFIC AND POLITICAL OBJECTIVES OF ITALIAN DELEGATION FROM LOMBARDY AND ROME. INDEED, IMPRESSIVE PROGRESS BY REGIONAL SCIENTISTS IN ORGANIZING FOR AND OBTAINING SIGNIFICANT MEASUREMENTS AND COMMENCING SCREENING AND MONITORING OF HUMAN POPULATION WAS CITED BY U.S. SCIENTIS AS OUTSTANDING EFFORT. GROUP HEARD EXTENSIVE REPORTS BY PROFESSORS GARATTINI AND FARA OF TECHNIQUES AND METHODOLOGY EMPLOYED IN TESTING AND MEASURING EFFECTS OF DIOXIN CONTAMINATION IN SEVESO AREA. U.S. PARTICIPANTS POSED QUESTIONS AND OFFERRED COMMENTS AIMED AT ASSISTING ITALIANS IN PROCEEDING FURTHER WITH EXTENSIVE SCIENTIFIC AND HEALTH PROGRAM PRESENTLY UNDER WAY.

2. GOLFARI STATED THAT AS REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HE BROUGHT THANKS FROM PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF HEALTH FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE IN SEVESO TRAGEDY.

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CITING IMPORTANCE OF REFUTING ITALIAN PRESS ALLEGATION

THAT SO-CALLED ANTIDOTE EXISTS TO DIOXIN POISONING, HE
ASKED THAT THIS POINT BE SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED IN PRESS
RELEASE, WHICH INDEED WAS DONE. (TEXT BEING TRANSMITTED
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SEPTEL.) GOLFARI WAS HIGHLY GRATIFIED AT RESULTS OF
SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE, ESPECIALLY COMMENDATION BY U.S.
SCIENTISTS FOR ITALIAN EFFORTS THUS FAR. HE INDICATED
READINESS OF ITALIAN AUTHORITIES TO INVITE ADDITIONAL
AMERICAN SCIENTISTS, THUS IMPLYING POSSIBILITY OF
ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE IN SEVESO.

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW AND INCREASED CONTACTS BETWEEN
ITALIAN SCIENTISTS AND THEIR U.S. COUNTERPARTS IS ONE OF
DIRECT RESULTS OF ITALIAN VISIT. ITALIAN SCIEN-
TISTS BY THEIR SKILL AND SPEED OF REACTION HAVE PUT
THEMSELVES IN STRONG POSITION TO BECOME WORLD'S FOREMOST
EXPERTS ON DIOXIN. THUS, SEVESO TRAGEDY, WHILE LAMENTA-
BLE IN HUMAN AND SOCIAL TERMS, WILL MAKE AVAILABLE BODY
OF EXPERTISE WHICH WOULD BE AVAILABLE IF NEEDED IN
FUTURE. ROBINSON

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PAGE 01 STATE 231358

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ORIGIN OES-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:OES/ENP/EN:HSPIELMAN:EF
APPROVED BY:OES/ENP/EN:HSPIELMAN
----- 045016
P 230830Z SEP 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 231358 ACTION ROME MILAN SEP 18.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 231358

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SENV, OTRA, US IT

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2. GOLFARI STATED THAT AS REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HE BROUGHT THANKS FROM PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF HEALTH FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE IN SEVESO TRAGEDY. CITING IMPORTANCE OF REFUTING ITALIAN PRESS ALLEGATION THAT SO-CALLED ANTIDOTE EXISTS TO DIOXIN POISONING, HE ASKED THAT THIS POINT BE SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED IN PRESS RELEASE, WHICH INDEED WAS DONE. (TEXT BEING TRANSMITTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

SEPTEL.) GOLFARI WAS HIGHLY GRATIFIED AT RESULTS OF SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE, ESPECIALLY COMMENDATION BY U.S. SCIENTISTS FOR ITALIAN EFFORTS THUS FAR. HE INDICATED READINESS OF ITALIAN AUTHORITIES TO INVITE ADDITIONAL AMERICAN SCIENTISTS, THUS IMPLYING POSSIBILITY OF ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE IN SEVESO.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, RESEARCH, VISITS, EXPLOSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE231358
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HSPIELMAN:EF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760353-0451
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760945/aaaabmng.tel
Line Count: 165
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOLFARI VISIT
TAGS: SENV, OTRA, US, IT, (GOLFARI)
To: ROME MILAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006